

# Best Books of the Decade: 2000-2009

Compiled from lists from Barnes & Noble, Paste Magazine, The A.V. Club, The Times Online, io9.com, and the blog Confessions of an Idiosyncratic Mind.

## Non-Fiction

- The Blank Slate* by Steven Pinker **155.2 Pinker**
- The Battle for God* by Karen Armstrong **200.9 Armstrong**
- The God Delusion* by Richard Dawkins **211.8 Dawkins**
- Blue Like Jazz* by Donald Miller **277.3082 Miller**
- The Tipping Point* by Malcolm Gladwell **302 Gladwell 2002**
- The Wisdom of Crowds* by James Surowiecki **303.38 Surowiecki**
- The World Without Us* by Alan Weisman **304.2 Weisman**
- Collapse* by Jared Diamond **304.28 Diamond**
- "A Problem from Hell"* by Samantha Power **304.6 Power**
- Nickel and Dimed* by Barbara Ehrenreich **305.569 Ehrenreich**
- Slavery by Another Name* by Douglas A. Blackmon **305.896 Blackmon**
- Payback* by Margaret Atwood **306.3 Atwood**
- The Botany of Desire* by Michael Pollan **306.4 Pollan**
- Freakonomics* by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner **330 Levitt**
- The Ascent of Money* by Niall Ferguson **330.09 Ferguson**
- Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson **364.1523 Larson**
- Fast Food Nation* by Eric Schlosser **394.10973 Schlosser**
- Eats, Shoots & Leaves* by Lynne Truss **428.2 Truss**
- A Short History of Nearly Everything* by Bill Bryson **500 Bryson**
- The Noonday Demon* by Andrew Solomon **616.8527 Solomon**

*Moondust* by Andrew Smith **629.45 Smith**

*No Logo* by Naomi Klein **658.4 Klein**

*Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi **741.5 Satrapi**

*Blankets* by Craig Thompson **741.53 Thompson**

*Jimmy Corrigan, the Smartest Kid on Earth* by Chris Ware **741.59 Ware**

*Fun Home* by Alison Bechdel **741.5973 Bechdel**

*The Arrival* by Shaun Tan **YA 741.5973 Tan**

*The Rest is Noise* by Alex Ross **780.904 Ross**

*Fargo Rock City* by Chuck Klosterman **781.66 Klosterman**

*Pictures at a Revolution* by Mark Harris **791.43 Harris**

*Seabiscuit* by Laura Hillenbrand **798.4 Hillenbrand**

*Experience* by Martin Amis **813.54 Amis**

*The Year of Magical Thinking* by Joan Didion **813.54 Didion**

*Me Talk Pretty One Day* by David Sedaris **814.54 Sedaris**

*Consider the Lobster And Other Essays* by David Foster Wallace **814.54 Wallace**

*Reading Lolita in Tehran* by Azar Nafisi **820.9 Nafisi**

*Staying Alive* edited by Neil Astley **821.008 Staying**

*District and Circle* by Seamus Heaney **821.91 Heaney**

*Giving up the Ghost* by Hilary Mantel **823.914 Mantel**

*Peeling the Onion* by Günter Grass **838 Grass**

*War Music* by Christopher Logue **883 H766**

*London* by Peter Ackroyd **942.1 Ackroyd 2003**

*Fatal Purity* by Ruth Scurr **944.044 Scurr**

*Maximum City* by Suketu Mehta **954.79205 Mehta**

*Imperial Life in the Emerald City* by Rajiv Chandrasekaran **956.7 Chandrasekaran**

*Assassination Vacation* by Sarah Vowell **973.099 Vowell**

*This Republic of Suffering* by Drew Gilpin Faust **973.71 Faust**

*Nixonland* by Rick Perlstein **973.924 Perlstein**

*The Looming Tower* by Lawrence Wright **973.931 Wright**

*A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius* by Dave Eggers **Biography Eggers**

*Them* by Francine Du Plessix Gray **Biography Iakovleva**

*Dreams from My Father* by Barack Obama **Biography Obama**

*Bad Blood* by Lorna Sage **Biography Sage**

## **Fiction**

*Half of a Yellow Sun* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

*The White Tiger* by Aravind Adiga

*Case Histories* by Kate Atkinson

*The Blind Assassin* by Margaret Atwood

*Oryx and Crake* by Margaret Atwood

*The Secret Scripture* by Sebastian Barry

*2666* by Robert Bolaño

*World War Z* by Max Brooks

*The Da Vinci Code* by Dan Brown

*The True History of the Kelly Gang* by Peter Carey

*The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay* by Michael Chabon

*Stories of Your Life and Others* by Ted Chiang

*Jonathan Strange and Mr. Norrell* by Susanna Clarke

*Youth* by J. M. Coetzee

*The Lincoln Lawyer* by Michael Connelly

*The Hours* by Michael Cunningham

*The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* by Junot Díaz

*Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom* by Cory Doctorow

*Acacia* by David Anthony Durham

*The Mount* by Carol Emshwiller

*Middlesex* by Jeffrey Eugenides

*The Small Boat of Great Sorrows* by Dan Fesperman

*Everything Is Illuminated* by Jonathan Safran Foer

*The Corrections* by Jonathan Franzen

*Pattern Recognition* by William Gibson

*Carter Beats the Devil* by Glen David Gold

*Confessions of Max Tivoli* by Andrew Sean Greer

*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon

*The Ghost* by Robert Harris

*The Collected Stories of Amy Hempel* by Amy Hempel

*The Line of Beauty* by Alan Hollinghurst

*The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini

*Jar City* by Arnaldur Indriðason

*Never Let Me Go* by Kazuo Ishiguro

*The Known World* by Edward P. Jones

*The Business of Dying* by Simon Kernick

*Interpreter of Maladies* by Jhumpa Lahiri

The Millennium Trilogy (2004-present) by Stieg Larsson

*Mystic River* by Dennis Lehane

*Fortress of Solitude* by Jonathan Lethem

*Every Secret Thing* by Laura Lippman

*The Kindly Ones* by Jonathan Littell

*The Execution Channel* by Ken MacLeod

*Life of Pi* by Yann Martel

*The Road* by Cormac McCarthy

*Atonement* by Ian McEwan

*If Nobody Speaks of Remarkable Things* by Jon McGregor

*The Emperor's Children* by Claire Messud

*Twilight* by Stephenie Meyer

*Perdido Street Station* by China Miéville

*Cloud Atlas* by David Mitchell

*Runaway* by Alice Munro

*Blind Willow, Sleeping Woman* by Haruki Murakami

*Suite Française* by Irène Némirovsky

*The Time Traveler's Wife* by Audrey Niffenegger

*Netherland* by Joseph O'Neill

*My Name is Red* by Orhan Pamuk

*Bel Canto* by Ann Patchett

*Wolf Brother* by Michelle Paver **J Fiction Paver**

*Tokyo Year Zero* by David Peace

*The Night Gardener* by George Pelecanos

*Still Life* by Louise Penny

*Out Stealing Horses* by Per Petterson

*The Ice Harvest* by Scott Phillips

*Lush Life* by Richard Price

His Dark Materials trilogy by Philip Pullman   **YA Fiction Pullman**

*Fleshmarket Close* by Ian Rankin

*Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson

*How I Live Now* by Meg Rosoff   **YA Fiction Rosoff**

*The Plot against America* by Philip Roth

Harry Potter series [1998-2007] by J.K. Rowling   **J Fiction Rowling**

*Absent Friends* by S.J. Rozan

*The Enchantress of Florence* by Salman Rushdie

*Empire Falls* by Richard Russo

*Austerlitz* by W. G. Sebald

*Unless* by Carol Shields

*The Terror* by Dan Simmons

*The Accidental* by Ali Smith

*White Teeth* by Zadie Smith

The Baroque Cycle by Neal Stephenson

*Glasshouse* by Charles Stross

*Everything Ravaged, Everything Burned* by Wells Tower

*Rainbows End* by Vernor Vinge

*Farthing* by Jo Walton

*Fingersmith* by Sarah Waters

*The Power of the Dog* by Don Winslow

*The Stone Gods* by Jeanette Winterson

*The Position* by Meg Wolitzer

*Winter's Bone* by Daniel Woodrell

*The Story of Edgar Sawtelle* by David Wroblewski

*The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak **YA Fiction Zusak**